

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Atsunori Hiratsuka *et al.*

Serial No.:

Group No.:

Filed:

Examiner:

Entitled: **Methods For Separating Substances**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT EO/US

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number **EV 329476939** US, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 4, 2005

By: Karen B Webber
Karen B. Webber

Sir or Madam:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced application as described herein. Amendments to the specification begin on page 2, while amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper. In addition, remarks begin on page 8.